

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1-22 are cancelled.

23. (currently amended): A method for managing a denitration catalyst, the method for managing a plurality of denitration catalysts in an exhaust-gas denitration system, the method comprising:

measuring a performance of the denitration catalysts separately for each of the denitration catalysts in consideration of a ratio of inlet NH₃ to inlet NO_x; and

determining which process is to be performed, regeneration of the denitration catalysts or replacement of the denitration catalysts, or neither of the regeneration nor the replacement is performed, for each of the denitration catalysts based on the performance measured.

24. (previously presented): The method for managing a denitration catalyst according to claim 23, wherein

the regeneration process includes a plurality of types of regeneration processes, and when it is determined to perform the regeneration, the determining includes selecting an optimum type from among the types of the regeneration processes.

25. (previously presented): The method for managing a denitration catalyst according to claim 23, further comprising replacing, when it is determined to perform the replacement, one of the denitration catalysts with a denitration catalyst that has been used in another exhaust-gas denitration system and that that has undergone regeneration.

26. (previously presented): The method for managing a denitration catalyst according to claim 23, further comprising determining a charge amount to be collected, when it is determined to perform the regeneration, by acquiring an amount of money at a predetermined ratio to an amount of a difference between a cost required for the replacement and a cost required for the regeneration.

27. (previously presented): The method for managing a denitration catalyst according to

claim 23, further comprising determining a charge amount to be collected from a user of the exhaust-gas denitration system based on a cost required for installation and management of the denitration catalysts.

28. (previously presented): The method for managing a denitration catalyst according to claim 23, wherein

the performance is measured by checking an exhaust gas at an inlet and an outlet of each of the denitration catalysts in a daily management for the denitration catalysts.

29. (previously presented): The method for managing a denitration catalyst according to claim 23, wherein

the measuring includes, in a periodic maintenance for the denitration catalysts, extracting a sample of each of the denitration catalysts, and measuring performance of the sample.

30. (previously presented): The method for managing a denitration catalyst according to claim 23, further comprising altering, when it is determined to perform the replacement, a shape of a denitration catalyst to be replacement.

31. (previously presented): The method for managing a denitration catalyst according to claim 23, further comprising altering, when it is determined to perform the regeneration, a shape of a denitration catalyst to be regenerated.

32. (previously presented): The method for managing a denitration catalyst according to claim 23, wherein

the determining includes determining whether at least one of the regeneration, the replacement, and an addition of a new denitration catalyst is performed or none of the regeneration, the replacement, and the addition is performed, for each of the denitration catalysts based on the performance.

33. (previously presented): The method for managing a denitration catalyst according to claim 32, further comprising adding, when it is determined to perform the addition, a denitration catalyst that has been used in another exhaust-gas denitration system, and that has undergone regeneration.

34. (previously presented): The method for managing a denitration catalyst according to claim 32, further comprising altering, when it is determined to perform the addition, a shape of a denitration catalyst to be added.

35. (currently amended): A method for managing a denitration catalyst, the method for managing a plurality of denitration catalysts in an exhaust-gas denitration system, the method comprising:

measuring performance of the denitration catalysts separately for each of the denitration catalysts in consideration of a ratio of inlet NH_3 to inlet NO_x ; and

determining execution timing for regeneration of the denitration catalysts and for replacement of the denitration catalysts, for each of the denitration catalysts based on the performance.

36. (previously presented): The method for managing a denitration catalyst according to claim 35, wherein

the determining includes determining execution timing for addition of a new denitration catalyst for each of the denitration catalysts in addition to the execution timing for the regeneration and for the replacement.

37. (previously presented): The method for managing a denitration catalyst according to claim 35, wherein

the performance is measured by checking an exhaust gas at an inlet and an outlet of each of the denitration catalysts in a daily management for the denitration catalysts.

38. (previously presented): The method for managing a denitration catalyst according to claim 35, wherein

the measuring includes, in a periodic maintenance for the denitration catalysts, extracting a sample of each of the denitration catalysts, and measuring performance of the sample.

39. (currently amended): A method for managing a denitration catalyst, the method for managing a plurality of denitration catalysts in an exhaust-gas denitration system, the method comprising:

predicting performance of each of the denitration catalysts based on information on a

scale and a total time of operation of the exhaust-gas denitration system; and

determining execution timing for regeneration of the denitration catalysts, for replacement of the denitration catalysts, and for addition of a new denitration catalyst, besides already provided denitration catalysts, based on the performance.

40. (currently amended): An apparatus for managing a denitration catalyst that manages a plurality of denitration catalysts in an exhaust-gas denitration system that includes a measuring device, the apparatus comprising:

a receiving unit that receives information on performance of each of the denitration catalysts that is measured by the measuring device, through a network;

a storage unit that stores the information; and

a determining unit that determines in consideration of a ratio of inlet NH₃ to inlet NO_x which process is to be performed, regeneration of the denitration catalysts or replacement of the denitration catalysts, or neither of the regeneration nor the replacement is performed, for each of the denitration catalysts based on the information in the storage unit.

41. (previously presented): The apparatus for managing a denitration catalyst according to claim 40, wherein

the determining unit determines whether at least one of the regeneration, the replacement, and an addition of a new denitration catalyst is performed, or none of the regeneration, the replacement, and the addition is performed, for each of the denitration catalysts based on the information in the storage unit.

42. (currently amended): An apparatus for managing a denitration catalyst that manages a plurality of denitration catalysts in an exhaust-gas denitration system that includes a measuring device, the apparatus comprising:

a receiving unit that receives information on performance of each of the denitration catalysts that is measured by the measuring device, through a network;

a storage unit that stores the information; and

a determining unit that determines in consideration of a ratio of inlet NH₃ to inlet NO_x execution timing for regeneration of the denitration catalysts and for replacement of the denitration catalysts for each of the denitration catalysts based on the information in the storage

unit.

43. (previously presented): The apparatus for managing a denitration catalyst according to claim 42, wherein

the determining unit determines execution timing for an addition of a new denitration catalyst for each of the denitration catalysts based on the information in the storage unit in addition to the execution timing for the regeneration and for the replacement.

44. (currently amended): An apparatus for managing a denitration catalyst that manages a plurality of denitration catalysts in a first exhaust-gas denitration system, the apparatus comprising:

a storage unit that stores information on performance of a plurality of denitration catalysts in a second exhaust-gas denitration system and information on execution timing for regeneration of the denitration catalysts, for replacement of the denitration catalysts, and for addition of a new denitration catalyst that are determined based on the information on the performance of the denitration catalysts in the second exhaust-gas denitration system;

a receiving unit that receives information on a scale and a total time of operation of the first exhaust-gas denitration system;

a predicting unit that predicts performance of each of the denitration catalysts in the first exhaust-gas denitration system based on the information received and the information in the storage unit; and

a determining unit that determines execution timing for the regeneration, for the replacement, and for the addition for each of the denitration catalysts, besides already provided denitration catalysts, based on the performance predicted.